

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

PERIODIC REPORTING  
(PROPOSAL TWO)

Docket No. RM2018-5

**INFORMAL RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO QUESTION POSED BY THE PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE**  
(July 9, 2018)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its informal response to the question posed by the Public Representative in her motion of July 6, 2018, seeking issuance of an information request. The hope is that responding in this fashion constitutes the most direct and efficient manner of dealing with the request by the Public Representative. The question is stated verbatim and followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorney:

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July 9, 2018

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1. The Postal Service states that “[t]he maximum number of city carrier routes in a zone is 74.”<sup>1</sup> The Postal Service also states that “[b]efore the test begins, the data collector identifies all carriers who will be working and assigned to the tested zone for any part of the morning.” Petition, Proposal Two at 20.
  - a. Please indicate the maximum number of carriers working in a zone in any part of the morning (up to 11 a.m.).
  - b. Please confirm that the number of carriers working in a zone in the morning is proportional (or nearly proportional) to the number of routes in a zone. If not confirmed, please explain.

**RESPONSE:**

- a. The maximum number of carriers working in the office on any given morning can vary. In some cases, there may be fewer carriers working than the number of routes in the office. Examples might be if a full-time carrier were casing routes for part-time carriers to pick up later, or if a carrier were on leave and coverage of the route was being split among other carriers after completion of their own routes. In other cases, there may be more carriers than there are routes working in the office in the morning. For example, that result might occur if all regular letter routes were being worked that day, and there were also SPR carriers preparing for collection and package delivery. Nonetheless, in general, the total number of routes is still likely to be a good estimator of the number of carriers working in a zone. In that framework, the zone with the highest number of number of routes is likely to be among the

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<sup>1</sup> Responses of the United States Postal service to Questions 1-9 of Chairman’s Information Request No. 1, question 10, June 29, 2018.

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zones with the most carriers working during the morning, although the actual  
“maximum” number of carriers working could vary for the reasons described.

- b. Generally confirmed. Please see the response to subpart a.